

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 00728 290839Z

ACTION DEAE-00

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SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF NARCOTICS TRAINING

REF: (A) STATE 008917, (B) 76 STATE 284346

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REFTELS.
DETAILED INFORMATION ALONG SIMILAR LINES WAS PROVIDED
TO FRANK ZAGAMI, DEA TRAINING EXPERT, WHEN HE CONDUCTED
IN-DEPTH SURVEY OF TUNISIAN TRAINING FACILITIES
MARCH 23-25, 1976.

A. GOT HAS ACTIVE NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM CONDUCTED
JOINTLY BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (POLICE JUDICIAIRE)
AND MINISTRY OF FINANCE (CUSTOMS).

B. NARCOTICS TRAINING IS PART OF OVERALL GOT TRAINING
PROGRAMS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS
AND IS CONDUCTED AT NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL. NORMAL
COURSES OF STUDY AT SCHOOL LAST THREE MONTHS (FULL TIME)
AND INCLUDE CLASSES ON NARCOTICS DETECTION, ETC. COURSES
ARE TAUGHT AT THREE LEVELS: (1) POLICE AGENTS, (2) POLICE
INSPECTORS, AND (3) JUDICIAL POLICE OFFICERS. PROGRAM
IS NATIONAL.

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 00728 290839Z

C. NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL AT SALAMBO (TUNIS), SMALL
NARCOTICS LABORATORY AT DIRECTORATE SURETE NATIONALE
(UNDER MINISTRY OF INTERIOR) AND LABORATORY AT INSTITUTE
PASTEUR (UNDER MINISTRY OF HEALTH), AND AD HOC TRAINING
COURSES. GOT IS ALSO IN COURSE OF ORGANIZAING A CANINE
TRAINING FACILITY.

D. INSTRUCTORS ARE MIDDLE TO HIGH LEVEL POLICE OFFICERS AND LOWER LEVEL SPECIALISTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AT NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL AND ABROAD (IN FRANCE AT ST. CYR AND IN GENEVE UNDER UN AUSPICES). INSTRUCTIONS IS SERIOUS ALTHOUGH PRIMARY FOCUS IS GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT RATHER THAN NARCOTICS TRAINING PER SE.

E. OVER PAST THREE YEARS TWENTY-FIVE POLICE AND CUSTOMS PERSONNEL HAVE RECEIVED NARCOTICS TRAINING IN U.S. (BNDD, DEA AND CUSTOMS). OTHERS HAVE STUDIED AT UN DRUG ENFORCEMENT FACILITIES IN GENEVA. IN ADDITION, U.S. CUSTOMS CONDUCTED THREE-WEEK TRAINING COURSE IN TUNIS IN JUNE 1976, AT WHICH TWENTY-FIVE CUSTOMS AGENTS ATTENDED.

F. IMPOSSIBLE TO MEASURE RESULTS OF LOCAL TRAINING PROVIDED THUS FAR AS TUNISIA HAS NO SIGNIFICANT DOMESTIC NARCOTICS PROBLEM AND IS NOT, AS FAR AS WE KNOW, USED AS A TRANSIT OR PROCESSING POINT. LAST LARGE SEIZURES WERE IN APRIL AND MAY 1975 WHEN 650 KILOS MOROCCAN HASHISH DESTINED FOR U.S. WERE SEIZED. FOUR "NON-PROFESSIONAL" U.S. CITIZENS WERE INVOLVED. NARCOTICS SEIZURES/ARREST AVERAGE 80 CASES YEARLY, MOSTLY INVOLVING TOURISTS CARRYING SMALL AMOUNTS FOR PERSONAL USE.

G. TUNISIA ALREADY HAS NATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM.

H. U.S. COULD USEFULLY AID GOT IN ITS EFFORTS TO
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PAGE 03 TUNIS 00728 290839Z

IMPROVE LOCAL NARCOTICS CONTROL CAPABILITIES BY CONTINUING TO CONDUCT IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS ON AD HOC BASIS AND IN OFFERING INSTRUCTOR/ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COURSES IN U.S.

I. IN VIEW OF LIMITATIONS ON TUNISIAN POLICE AND CUSTOMS RESOURCES AND RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL OF DOMESTIC USE/TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS, TUNISIA WOULD NOT BE AN APPROPRIATE SITE FOR REGIONAL TRAINING EFFORT.
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